



GO GREEN! NEWSLETTER

October 2010

October: Energy Awareness Month

This year's theme: **POWERING AMERICA: We're on Target**

This theme represents how Federal agencies are on target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, lower costs, and achieve long term energy and economic security. Visit the [website](http://www.eere.energy.gov) to read more.

Save Energy in Your Office or Facility!
Here is a helpful checklist with ways to reduce energy use:

- ◆ Switch off all unnecessary lights. Use [dimmers, motion sensors, or occupancy sensors](#) to automatically turn off lighting when not in use to reduce energy use and costs.
- ◆ **Unplug equipment** that drains energy when not in use (i.e. cell phone chargers, fans, coffeemakers, desktop printers, radios, etc.).
- ◆ Turn off photocopier at night or purchase a new copier with low standby feature. Purchase printers and fax machines with power management feature and use it. (See [http://www.eere.energy.gov](#))
- ◆ Reduce business travel by increasing phone, video, and Web conferencing and training capabilities.
- ◆ **Save paper.** Photocopy only what you need. Always use the second side of paper, either by printing on both sides or using the blank side as scrap paper.
- ◆ Use **task lighting**; instead of brightly lighting an entire room, focus the light where you need it, to directly illuminate work areas.



Recycle Rama: The Results!

The results from Recycle Rama are in, and were fantastic! Here are some numbers from recycled items from the September 25th Event:

- **Grease:** 69 gallons (414 lbs)
- **Appliances:** 16,700 lbs
- **Fluorescent Tubes:** 75 items
- **CFL's:** 300-400 items
- **Books:** 9,200 lbs

Great work Lansing!

Greater Lansing Eco Summit

Join Go Green and Greenation at the Greater Lansing Eco Summit on Friday, October 22 and Saturday, October 23 at the People's Church in East Lansing. Both days will include a variety of speakers, workshops, and exhibitors focused on empowering participants to create more sustainable communities. To learn more about the conference or to register as an exhibitor, visit ourgreenation.org.

How to Hold a Green Meeting

Meetings and conferences can have an adverse impact on the environment. They often generate additional paper, plastic and Styrofoam waste. The [Green Events Source Book](#) defines a green meeting as one that "incorporates environmental considerations throughout all stages in order to minimize the negative impact on the environment." To learn more about how to hold a green meeting or conference, click [here](#).



The Six Steps to Green Meetings

1. Location, Location, Location: Pick a Green City or Venue; or hold your meeting electronically.
2. Avoid Plastic Water Bottles and Styrofoam cups
3. Reduce Use of Virgin Paper and Minimize Waste
4. Serve Local and Organic Refreshments
5. Engage the Local Community
6. Go Carbon Neutral

Michigan: Advanced Battery Capital of the World

Michigan has several claims to fame already, but we are ready to add a new one. Massachusetts-based A123 Systems will be opening a new facility in Livonia. A123 Systems produces lithium ion automotive batteries, the batteries necessary to run electric vehicles. This new production facility has already aided in hiring 300 workers, and is the largest of its type in North America. Several thousand more jobs are expected in coming years as a second facility is planned to open in Romulus. A123 is a leading supplier of lithium ion batteries for trucks and buses. The company realizes that Michigan, being the hub of the automotive industry in the United States, is an ideal place to be, especially with the up-and-coming electric

Tackle Climate Change with a Global Work Party: 10/10/10

The Goal: 350.org wants to raise awareness globally about the number 350. Why is this number important? 350 parts per million CO₂ in the atmosphere is the number estimated by scientists that is a safe limit for humanity. Currently we are above our safe zone (350) at 392 ppm. This number is rising by 2 parts per million every year.

This Year's Event: A party! This is a party meant to be celebrated around the world, and everyone's invited. On 10/10/10 350.org invites anyone and everyone to join or create a "Global Work Party" where the focus of the party is to somehow help the environment by working together on an issue.

To create your own party or to join an existing one, visit 350.org



CLIMATE CORNER



As you work to "green" your business, think beyond how you power your facilities. A recent study by the Baker Institute Energy Forum finds that electric cars hold greater promise for lowering emissions and promoting energy independence than renewable portfolio standards. The Baker Institute analysis found "the single most effective way to reduce U.S. oil demand and foreign imports would be an aggressive campaign to launch electric vehicles into the automotive fleet." In fact, mandating that 30 percent of all vehicles be electric by 2050 would both reduce U.S. oil use by 2.5 million barrels a day beyond the 3 million barrels-per-day savings already expected from new corporate average fuel efficiency standards, and also cut emissions by 7 percent, while the proposed national renewable portfolio standard (RPS) would cut them by only 4 percent over the same time. To learn more about the findings of the Baker Institute's study, click [here](#).